Shoe Factory.

As our readers are aware an effort has been made in the past two weeks to establish a shoe factory in this place by Mr. Sickles, of Pa. A meeting to advance the move was held last Monday night in the Wilkes building, which was very well attended by the citizens, notwithstanding the prevailing rain. At this meeting Mr. Isaac Witz was called to the chair, and Mr. Sickles introduced, who explained his connection with the enterprise. Mr. S is an experienced man in the business, and comes here in his own interest, and desires to locate here because that interest will be benefitted. He assured the meeting that the business would be profitable, otherwise he would not be willing to invest his capital and risk his reputation as a successful shoe man, and referred to the Shoe and Leather Association by which he had been endorsed as a good manager in that line. In response to questions, Mr. S. said he desired to locate here because he can get plenty of help; that with $30,000 capital he would work about one hundred hands—40 per cent of whom will be females; that ten or twelve boys will get work; that ladies', misses and children's shoes only will be turned out; that he can compete successfully with large Northern concerns, as he would have less foremen and book-keepers. He was opposed to starting business on less capital than $80,000, as it will take $10,000 for necessary machinery, and the pay roll will amount to about $500 a week. Of the force employed, ten or twelve will be experienced workmen, and the residue will be educated to the work from our own citizens. The wages will depend on the work done, and it is supposed will range from $6 to $18 per week. Females in doing piece-work earn from $3 to $8 a week—all work done by machinery. This enterprise, he assured the meeting, was no wild-cat scheme, but would be a profitable investment to the stockholders, a benefit to the community and advance business here generally. This is a desirable point, because it has good outlets and good freight rates can be obtained. As a result of the conference, several additional shares of stock were taken, and, on motion, the committee soliciting subscribers was enlarged by adding T. J. Crowder, J. T. Long and J. H. Wayt to the committee. Messrs. J. C. Scheffer, George C. Maslin, C. L. Weller and M. N. Bradley have heretofore been soliciting. About $14,000 are yet needed to complete the amount required.

Our citizens now have an opportunity of helping themselves and the city of Staunton by making up the small sum necessary to add a good business enterprise to our community. Another meeting in the same place will be held on Thursday night next.